

In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended): A method for ~~transferring~~ the local delivery of a nucleic acid into to the nerve cells, comprising a step of contacting the nerve cells with either (a) a negative-sense RNA viral vector or (b) cells comprising said vector, wherein said negative-sense RNA virus belongs to the Paramyxoviridae family.
2. (Original): A method of claim 1, wherein said nerve cells are the central nervous system cells.
3. (Original): A method of claim 2, wherein said central nervous system cells are ventricular ependymal cells.
4. (Original): A method of claim 2, wherein said central nervous system cells are hippocampus cells.
5. (Previously amended): The method of claim 1, wherein nucleic acid contained in the negative-sense RNA viral vector comprises a foreign gene.
6. (Original): The method of claim 5, further comprising allowing to transiently express said foreign gene.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Currently amended): A method of claim ~~7~~ 5, wherein said protein acts on the hypothalamic nuclei.
9. (Currently amended): A method of claim ~~7~~ 5, wherein said protein is capable of protecting the brain from ischemia.
10. (Original): A method of claim 5, wherein said foreign gene is selected from the group consisting of FGF-1, FGF-5, NGF, CNTF, BDNF, GDNF, p35, CrmA, ILP, bc1-2 and ORF 150.
11. (Withdrawn)
12. (Withdrawn)
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Currently Amended): A method of claim ~~13~~ 1, wherein said virus belonging to the Paramyxoviridae family is Sendai virus.

15. (Currently Amended): A negative-sense RNA viral vector used for ~~transferring~~ the local delivery of a nucleic acid into to the nerve cells by the method of claim 1.
16. (New): The method of claim 1, wherein said local delivery is achieved through intraventricular administration.
17. (New): The method of claim 1, wherein said local delivery is achieved through administration to brain parenchyma.
18. (New): The method of claim 5, wherein said foreign protein gene encodes a protein regulating food intake.